

A
DECLARATION
Of The
LORDS and COMMONS
Assembled in Parliament.

Concerning his Maiesties advancing of his Army towards *London*, with directions that all the Trained Bands and Voluntiers bee put into a readinesse, that so the Kings Army may find opposition in every place as they March.

Also how Sir *John Hinderson* urged one *David Alexander*, a Scotchman, to kill Sir *John Horham*, and blow up the Parliaments Magazine, to whom his Maiefty gave Money, and he received it.

And that no man shall presume to weare any colours or Markes of Division in the City of London.

Whereunto is added severall Votes of the Lords and Commons, for the searching of diverse mens houses in the City, and for the staying of the Kings Revenue, and all the Bishops, Deanes and Chapters Rents and profits whatsoever.

Sabbathi, 15. Octob. 1642.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, that this Declaration and Votes be forthwith Printed and published.
John Browne Cler. Parliam.

Osob. 17. London Printed for Iohn Wright. 1642.

A Declaration of the Lords and Commons Assembled in PARLIAMENT.

THe Lords and Commons in Parliament, considering with much tendernesse and compassion, the miserable condition of this Kingdome, distracted, and distempered with many present evils, & imminent dangers, and brought now to such an height of extremity of misery, that two English Armies are neere together, even ready to joyne in a dreadfull and bloody encounter, through the violent and wicked counsell of those, who have captivated both the Person and the power of the King, to their owne impious and Trayterous designs, doe thereupon thinke good to publish and declare the same to the Kingdome, together with some directions and provisions which may prevent that utter desolation and ruine, both of Religion and liberty, already overwhelmed and suppressed in the intention and hope of those Rebels and Traytors about the King, to which purpose it is desired by both Houses, that all wel-affected Subjects may take notice of these particulars.

That the King by the help & assistance of the Papists, the Prelaticall and corrupt part of the Clergy, the Delinquent Nobility and Gentry, and by the confluence of some notable Traytors from beyond the Seas; the Lord *Digby*, *Onslow*, and others, and of many desperate mercenary and ill-affected persons from all parts of the Kingdome; hath raised an Army, armed, clothed, and fed, for the most part with the spoyles of his Subjects, giving them liberty to plunder and rob all sorts of people; to exact money and plate from Corporations, by threatning fire, and sword, if they should refuse it.

That this wicked counsell doth not onely hinder his Majesty

fly from exercising the justice and protection of a King towards his people, but even that honour which is observed betwixt Enemies; for by a confident instrument of his Majesty, Sir *John Hinderson* a Papist (as we are credibly informed) one *David Alexander* was urged to kill Sir *John Hotham*, telling him it would be a good service both to God and the King, which he refused to doe, saying it was the worke of a Butcher, and not of a Souldier; This *Alexander* being a Scotchman, of a very poor fortune, and of a mind fit for desperate attempts. The King sent for him, while he was at *Beverley*, and when he came to his presence, he spake to him publicly in the field, and appointed a sum of money to be given him, which he received.

After which another proposition was made to him by the same Sir *John Hinderson*, that he would put fire to the Magazine of the Army raised by the Parliament, & to gain the better opportunity to effect it, that he should labor to get some employment in the train of Artillery, which he accordingly undertook, & endeavoured to obtain; But before he could effect his mischievous intention, he was discovered, apprehended, & examined, and thereupon confessed the practise, and undertaking, the particulars whereof are referred to the examinations thereupon taken. That the King doth send out Letters to borrow great sums, professing that those who will not lend him money, doe give him just cause to suspect their duty to his Person, and the peace of the Kingdome. And this will be a sufficient reason to make them lyable to be plundered and spoyled of all they have; but such is the violence of the Kings Army, that their friends are in little better case then they who oppose them, and those who escape best must yet feed and billet the Souldiers for nothing.

In those places where the trained bands are willing to go forth to serve in his Maj. Army, yet for the most part their Armies are taken from them, and put upon those who are more mercenary, and lesse interested in the Common Wealth, and is

likely to be fitter instruments of Rapine and Spoyle.

By these great violences and oppressions they have so exhausted those parts that his Majesty cannot stay long about *Shrewsbury*, and it is the earnest desire of the Cavaliers that he would march forward towards *London*, those rich and fruitfull Countries in the way being like to yeeld them a supply of their necessities, and the wealth of *London* a full satisfaction of their hope, where they likewise thinke to find a party which upon his Majesties approach may make some disturbance, and facilitate their designs upon the City.

That if the Kings Army prevaile, the good Subjects can expect nothing but that their lives and fortunes will be exposed to the malice and rapine of those ravenous Souldiers, who often talk of cutting the Throats of honest and Religious men, & have long expected their goods & estates, as the rewards of their service; the Kingdome will againe fall under the government of those mischievous counsellors, who before this Parliament, had even brought both religion and liberty to ruine; and wee shall have no hope left of any more Parliaments, but such as shall be concurrent and subservient to these ends,

*The means of curing and preventing these evils and dangers,
we conceive to be these.*

That good provision be made by loane and contribution for the Army raised by the Parliament, under the Lord Generall the Earle of *Essex*, which is no whit inferiour in Horse and Foot to the Kings Army, better armed, full payd, restrained from disorder and Rapine, as much as may be; well provided of all outward necessities; but above all, well encouraged and instructed in the goodnesse of the cause, by the labour of many godly and painfull Divines.

That this Army bee allwayes ready to attend the removes of the Kings Army, either in one body or divided as there shall bee occasion, according to the wise conduct and direction of the Lord Generall, that so no opportunity

portunity of fighting upon advantage be lost, nor the greedy Souldiers of the Kings Army suffered to range, and spoyle the Country at their pleasure.

That the Countries through which the Kings Army is to passe doe associate themselves, and draw all their Forces together, for the mutuall defence of their persons and goods from Oppression and Spoyle.

That those Counties be required to send in all their Horses fit for carriage and for Dragoones as well for the Assistance of the Lord Generall, for which in convenient time they shall receive satisfaction, As likewise that by such meanes these Horses may be kept from being employed by the Kings Army.

That command and direction be given to all Lieutenants of Counties and deputy Lieutenants, that all the Trained-Bands and all Voluntiers be put into a readinesse to be brought to such Rendezvous, and to be obedient to such Commanders in chiefe as shall be appointed by the Committee for the safety of the Kingdome, or by the Lord Generall, that so the Kings Army may find opposition in every place as they passe, and the Inhabitants may have at hand a sufficient protection & defence, and the Lord Generall may strengthen his own Army with these Forces, as he shall see cause.

That Powder, Munition, and Ordnance, with all other necessaries be prepared for these forces, that so without any trouble or confusion, they may be brought together, and fitted for service upon all sodaine Occurrents.

That all those who in the City of London, or any other place, shall weare any Colours, or other markes of division, whereby they may be distinguished from others and known to be of the malignant Party, shall be examined, searched, and disarmed, as likewise all others, who being able, shall not lend or contribute towards the publike safety of the Kingdome, in this time of so great and imminent danger.

That it be commended to the serious consideration of those in the Kings Army, and of all other that intend to assist and

succout his Maieſty in this impious and unnaturall warre, among whom it may be hoped there are ſome honeſt men, and Proteſtants, what it is that moves them in this Quarrell,

Is it for feare of ſome Innovations and alteration? of Religion or Church Governement? let ſuch as are poſſeſt with this vaine and cauſeleſſe apprehenſion, know, that nothing is intended or deſired, but to take a way the government by Biſhops, which hath bin ſo conſtantly, evidently, miſchievous, and dangerous to the Church and ſtate, and ſuch other things as ſhall be found to be juſtly offenſive, and nothing to be ſetled and Introduced, but by authority of Parliament after conſultation firſt had with an aſſembly of learned and reverend Divines.

Is it to uphold the authority, prerogative, and Honour of the King and to preſerve the ſafety of his Royall Perſon? ſurely the Parliament is and ever hath beene ready to doe any thing that belongs to them to ſecure all theſe, which they have often teſtified by many humble petitions to his Maieſty.

If there be no cauſe for any of theſe reſpects, to ſeek the deſtruction of the Parliament and the blood and ruine of their kindred, friends and acquaintance, what remains then to be the matter of the quarrell, and the motives of ſuch great combuſtions, and the effects and conſequences of their victory if they ſhould prevaile? that Priests, Jeſuits, & the Popes Nuncios may domineere & govern in the Kings Counſel as heretofore, that the Arch Biſhops of *Canterbury* and *Yorke* and their Suffragans may ſuppreſſe diligent and powerfull preaching, and baniſh and oppreſſe all the moſt pious and beſt affected Subjects of the Kingdome, & introduce the Popiſh Religion under a proteſtant profeſſion, till they have ſtrength and boldneſſe to caſt off the diſguiſe, and openly appeare that which indeed they are, and would not ſeeme to be.

That the Earle of *Briffoll*, and his Son the Lord *Digby*, Mr. *Jermyn*, and other ſuch Traytors may poſſeſſe the great places, and governement of this Kingdome, and be the arbiters of the affaires

affaires of State, and distributors of preferments, and disgraces;
to such as shall further or oppose their designs.

That the delinquents, oppressors, and destroyers of the
Kingdome, may not onely escape the iustice of the Parliament,
but triumph in the spoiles of all honest men, good Patriots;
and that through our troubles, and divisions, the Rebels in Ire-
land may prevaile; that we may cease to be a free Nation, and
become the object of cruelty and oppression at home, and of
scorne and infamy abroad.

And if there can be no other fruit of their hazard and ende-
vours on that side, let them then consider, whether by adhe-
ring to the Parliament, they may not expect effects more suita-
ble to the desires of honest men; The glory of God, in the pre-
servation of his Truth, The peace of the Church, by securing
it against the pride, avarice, and ambition of the Clergy, The
honour greatnesse and security of the King, by freeing him
from false and Traiterous Counsellors, and establishing him in
the hearts and affections of his people, the prosperity of the
whole Kingdome by the blessing of good Lawes and a righte-
ous government.

Die Sabbathi 15. Octob. 1642.

Resolved upon the Question by the
Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament.

That such persons as shall not Contribute to the charge of the Common wealth in this time of imminent necessity, shall be held fit to be secured.

Resolved upon the Question &c.

That such persons as shall not contribute to the charge of the Common-wealth in this time of imminent necessity, shall be held fit to be Disarmed.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, That the Lord Major & Sheriffs of the City of London shall forthwith search the houses and seize the Armes belonging unto M. Nathaniell Jefferson, M. Austin, M. John Beale, M. John Batty, M. Ralph Long and M. Robert Lewis, all of Broadstreet Ward, M. John Blunt, of Lincestreet Ward, M. Ald. Wright of Colemanstreet Ward, M. Roger Drake, M. John Waller, of Faringdon within; for that as it appeares by the report from the Committee they have not Contributed as they ought to the charge of the Common-wealth, in this time of imminent necessity.

Resolved upon the Question &c.

That the fines, Rents, & profits of Arch-Bishops, Bishops, Deanes, Deanes and Chapters, and of such notorious Delinquents who have taken up Armes against the Parliament, or have bin active in the Commission of Array, shall be sequestred for the use and service of the Common wealth.

Resolved upon the Question &c.

That the Kings Revenue arising out of Rents, Fines in Courts of Justice, Compositions for Wards, & the like, & al other his Majesties Revenue, shall be brought into the severall Courts and other places where they ought to be paid in, and not Issued forth or paid out, untill further order shall be taken by both Houses of Parliament.

The manner of sequestration is referred to a Committee.

FINIS

